

### **R E M A R K S**

Careful review and examination of the subject application are noted and appreciated.

### **SUPPORT FOR THE CLAIM AMENDMENTS**

Support for the claim amendments may be found in the specification, for example, in FIG. 4, on page 9, lines 1-4 and on page 12, lines 12-16. Thus, no new matter has been added.

### **IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Minor changes to the specification have been made to improve consistency with the drawings. No new matter has been added.

### **OBJECTION TO DRAWINGS**

The objection to the drawings has been obviated by amendment and should be withdrawn. FIGS. 1-3 have been amended for consistency with the specification. Reference labels 150 and 152 have been added to the block 144 in FIG. 1. In FIG. 2, a reference label 180 has been added to the multiplexer. In FIG. 3, the reference numbers 162a and 162b have been changed to 164a and 164b to be consistent with FIG. 2. The reference number 160 has been changed to 162, to be consistent with FIG. 2. The reference numbers 180 and 182 have been changed to 184 and 186, in order to

remove the double use of those reference numbers. No new matter has been added. Replacement sheets with these changes made are submitted herewith.

#### **CLAIM OBJECTIONS**

The objection to claim 8 has been obviated by amendment and should be withdrawn.

#### **CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112**

The rejection of claims 1-8 rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, has been obviated by amendment and should be withdrawn. Claims 2-8 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 1 which is now believed to be allowable.

#### **CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102**

The rejection of claims 1-2 and 9-10 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Aweya et al. '651 (hereafter Aweya) has been obviated by amendment and should be withdrawn.

Aweya concerns a technique for synchronizing clocks in a network (Title).

In contrast, claim 1 of the present invention provides a method for controlling the frequency of oscillation of a local clock signal comprising the steps of (A) generating the local clock signal in response to a first control signal, (B) generating the

first control signal in response to one of a plurality of adjustment signals selected in response to a second control signal, (C) generating the second control signal in response to a comparison between a local timestamp and an external timestamp. The second control signal selects said one of a plurality of adjustment signals when a difference between the local time stamp and the external timestamp is outside a predefined margin. Claims 9 and 10 have similar limitations. Aweya does not disclose or suggest each of these limitations.

In particular, Aweya fails to disclose second control signal that selects one of a plurality of adjustment signals when a difference between said local time stamp and an external timestamp is outside a predefined margin, as presently claimed. Although Aweya discloses a method of synchronizing clocks in a network, Aweya fails to disclose such an adjustment based on a predefined margin, as presently claimed. Therefore, Aweya does not disclose or suggest the presently claimed invention and the rejection should be withdrawn.

#### **CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103**

The rejection of claims 3-6 and 13-16 rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Aweya et al. 651' (hereafter Aweya) in view of Gervais et al., US Patent Application Pub. No. 2006/0062195 (hereafter Gervais) is respectfully traversed and

should be withdrawn. Claims 3-6 and 13-16 depend, directly or indirectly, on claims 1, 9, or 10, which are now believed to be allowable.

The rejection of claims 7 and 8 rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Aweya in view of Gervais in further view of Skerritt et al., US Patent Application Pub. No. 2006/0109059 (hereafter Skerritt) is respectfully traversed and should be withdrawn. Claims 7-8 depend, directly or indirectly, on claim 1, which is now believed to be allowable.

The rejection of claims 11 and 12 rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Aweya in view of Skerritt is respectfully traversed and should be withdrawn. Claims 11-12 depend, directly or indirectly, on claim 10, which is now believed to be allowable.

As such, the presently claimed invention is fully patentable over the cited references and the rejection should be withdrawn.

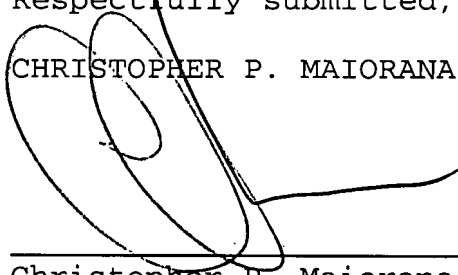
Accordingly, the present application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action by the Examiner is respectfully solicited.

The Examiner is respectfully invited to call the Applicants' representative between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET at 586-498-0670 should it be deemed beneficial to further advance prosecution of the application.

If any additional fees are due, please charge Deposit  
Account No. 12-2252.

Respectfully submitted,

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c/o  
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